

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 06914 180921Z

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 (ISO) W

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5798

S E C R E T SEOUL 6914

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DEPT PLEASE PASS USLO PEKING

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS, KS KN US CH)

SUBJ: CONSULTATION WITH SECRETARY GENERAL KIM CHUNG YUM ON
SECRETARY'S DISCUSSION OF KOREA ISSUES WITH THE CHINESE

REF: (A) STATE 193729, (B) SEOUL 6885

SUMMARY. PER INSTRUCTION, I DISCUSSED THE KOREAN ASPECTS OF THE SECRETARY'S TRIP TO THE PRC WITH SECRETARY GENERAL KIM CHUNG YUM THURSDAY MORNING. HE WAS NOT PREPARED TO RESPOND WITH ANY SUGGESTIONS OR IDEAS, BUT EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE TRILATERAL DISCUSSIONS AND URGED THAT PRC BE SOLICITED FOR ASSISTANCE TO RESUMPTION OF NORTH-SOUTH DIA-LOGUE. END SUMMARY.

1. I HAD INFORMED THE FOREIGN MINISTER YESTERDAY THAT I WOULD BE CALLING ON THE SECRETARY GENERAL THIS MORNING IN THE HOPES THAT THAT MIGHT EXPEDITE THE ROKG REVIEW PROCESS OF THE U.S. SCENARIO DURING SECRETARY'S VISIT TO PEKING. THE SECRETARY GENERAL HAD BEEN INFORMED OF MY CONVERSATION WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER BUT WAS, NEVERTHELESS, NOT PREPARED TO COMMENT EITHER ON OUR PROPOSALS OR ON OTHER IDEAS THE ROKG MIGHT HAVE. AFTER REVIEWING THE SUBSTANCE AS CONTAINED IN REFTEL,
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I SAID THAT IN VIEW OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS MATTER, I HOPED THAT THE PRESIDENT WOULD BE PERSONALLY BRIEFED ON 74 INITIATIVES. THE SECRETARY GENERAL PROMISED TO DO SO AND SAID THAT THE ROKG RESPONSE WOULD BE PROVIDED TO US BY THE FOREIGN MINISTER WHEN ALL COMPETENT MINISTRIES HAD HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THE MATTER. I EMPHASIZED THE CONSULTATIVE ASPECT OF OUR MEETING.

2. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT AS A PERSONAL VIEW, HE FELT THAT THE TRILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WOULD NOT BE EFFECTIVE AND WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE PRC WAS ONE OF THE FOUR POWERS DIRECTLY CONCERNED WITH THE PEACE ON THE PENINSULA AND THAT, THEREFORE, COULD NOT BE LEFT OUT OF ANY DISCUSSIONS. HE FELT THAT WITHOUT THE PRC, A DIALOGUE CONCERNING A MORE PERMANENT PEACEFUL ARRANGEMENT WOULD NOT BE EFFECTIVE. FINALLY, HE FELT THAT IN A THREE-POWER CONFERENCE THE ROKG WOULD FIND ITSELF IN THE ROLE OF "BRIDESMAID". SUCH A CONFERENCE WOULD TEND TO REDUCE THE STATUS OF THE ROK AND INCREASE THE PRESTIGE OF NORTH KOREA IN THE EYES OF THE WORLD.

3. HE SAID THAT HE PERSONALLY FELT THAT MAXIMUM EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO OBTAIN PRC ASSISTANCE IN GETTING THE NORTH BACK TO A NORTH-SOUTH CONFERENCE TABLE.

4. COMMENT: THE SECRETARY GENERAL REPEATED TWICE THAT THESE WERE HIS PERSONAL VIEWS. I AM ASSUMING THAT SINCE SUFFICIENT TIME HAS PASSED SINCE MY CONVERSATION WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTER, THAT SOME DISCUSSIONS CONCERNING OUR PROPOSALS HAVE TAKEN PLACE WITH PRESIDENT PARK AND THAT, THEREFORE, HIS "PERSONAL VIEWS" ARE AT LEAST A SEMI-OFFICIAL RESPONSE ON THE PROPOSAL FOR
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TRILATERAL DISCUSSIONS. I EXPRESSED THE HOPE TO BOTH THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER THAT WE HAVE THE OFFICIAL ROKG VIEWS BY THIS WEEKEND, BEFORE THE SECRETARY ARRIVED IN PEKING.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, COLLECTIVE SECURITY, POLICIES, MINISTERIAL VISITS, PEACE PLANS, CAT-B
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: OA
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 77 STATE 193729, 77 SEOUL 6885
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1560512
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONSULTATION WITH SECRETARY GENERAL KIM CHUNG YUM ON SECRETARY'S DISCUSSION OF KOREA ISSUES WITH THE CHINESE
TAGS: OVIP, KS, KN, US, CH, (KIM CHONG-YOM)
To: STATE SS MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/11028b58-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009